

Today's News - Wednesday, October 7, 2009

- Weinstein's Words That Build Tip #19: Choose words and phrases that depict your architecture as a mysterious promise, as well as a known product.
- Pei wins RIBA Royal Gold Medal.
- Saffron gives (mostly) thumbs-up to new Barnes design and how far it goes toward fulfilling a "mission impossible."
- Venturi slams the Barnes move (though nothing about the actual design).
- Russell on the dilemmas facing the "offbeat" Barnes and Gardner Museums: sometimes "idiosyncrasy can go too far."
- Mayne's FLOAT House is ready to moor in New Orleans (now all they have to do is find someone who wants to move in).
- Koolhaas's Maggie's Centre gets the go-ahead in Glasgow.
- King finds Mills College's new zinc-clad (and very green) business school makes a "bid for attention" in an unlikely setting, yet it "feels as comfortable as an old shoe."
- Changing current housing rules in NYC (and elsewhere?) "could point a way out of the affordable housing shortage."
- MIT research shows "even moderate carbon-reduction policies can substantially lower the risk of future climate change."
- Breathing Earth website presents real-time simulation of global CO2 emissions - right down to neighborhoods.
- Gehry talks green design: he has no plans to jump on any sustainable architecture bandwagon any time soon: "the green thing is very important, but some of us have been thinking of it for a while."
- His Weisman Art Museum's expansion breaks ground.
- Finger pointing persists in Foster's lopped-off Harmon Hotel in Las Vegas.
- His winning design for new Routemaster bus comes under fire: it's not big enough.
- But there is good news for his firm and FxFowle: both win a big WAN award.
- 93 sites on the 2010 World Monuments Watch (unexpected to us: Connecticut's Merritt Parkway - one of our favorite drives).
- Becker cheers Burnham Plan Centennial exhibition: "It's Big. It's Bold. It's sometime a bit delirious...an entertaining and challenging compilation of ideas" (and only a few days left to see it).
- A good reason to head to Michigan at the end of the week: "Future of Design" conference has a very impressive list of designers, critics, and provocative thinkers.
- Call for entries: Re:Vision Design Awards 2010 international competition emerging designers.

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WORDS THAT BUILD Tip #19: Choose words and phrases that depict your architecture as a mysterious promise, as well as a known product. By Norman Weinstein - ArchNewsNow

I.M. Pei wins RIBA Royal Gold Medal: ...one of the industry's most prestigious prizes...given in recognition of an architect's lifetime work and is personally approved by the Queen [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

New Barnes design is ...that good: As that most eccentric of art museums...prepares to move...two essential questions worth asking...What's lost? What's gained? ...design...can't be evaluated on the usual terms...also must succeed as an exonerator of the foundation's alleged crimes against the memory of its founder...What's astonishing is just how far the design...goes toward fulfilling that mission impossible. By Inga Saffron -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Laurie C. Olin [images, video]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Robert Venturi slams proposed Barnes Foundation move: ...focuses on the artistic damage [he] believes will be caused by the move: "The current building in Merion was designed specifically for the Barnes collection by Paul Cret...The building and site design are an integral part of the collection, and vice versa. Separating them vastly diminishes the value and purpose of both." [links]- Los Angeles Times

Offbeat Barnes, Gardner Museums Face Decay, Change: We need museums that don't toe the art-world party line, but idiosyncrasy can go too far. I fear neither the Gardner's addition nor the Barnes's new home will free them of the unenviable dilemma of trying to save the collections while remaining true to their founders' vision. By James S. Russell -- Tod Williams Billie Tsien; Renzo Piano - Bloomberg News

Make It Float: Among the 13 house designs proposed last year for Brad Pitt's Make It Right project in New Orleans...The FLOAT House...is currently waiting for a resident...expected to earn it LEED Platinum -- Mayne/Morphosis [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Koolhaas Glasgow Maggie's Centre wins planning: ...for a new £2.1 million cancer care centre -- Office of Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) [images]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Zinc-clad outsider finds place on Mills College campus: this isn't just a shift in styles. It's a bid for attention. Good luck in this setting. But give the...Lokey Graduate School of Business building credit for something else: it is contemporary architecture shaped by environmental concerns, and it feels as comfortable as an old shoe. By John King -- Bohlin Cywinski Jackson [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

NYC Should Have Even Smaller Apartments: A reimagining of people's space needs could point a way out of the affordable housing shortage...current housing rules stifle innovative design, restrict the construction of new affordable housing, and exacerbate the city's never-ending housing shortage — practically making overcrowding the unofficial housing policy. -- Citizens Housing and Planning Council (CHPC)- City Limits (NYC)

MIT research says 'enact policies now' to limit risk of climate catastrophe: ...even moderate carbon-reduction policies can substantially lower the risk of future climate change...failing to take prompt action could result in extreme changes that could become much more difficult, if not impossible, to control. [links]- Gizmag (Australia)

Real Time Simulation of Global CO2 Emissions: Click through to Breathing Earth to brace for the full impact of carbon dioxide-heavy nations...and for an encyclopedic range of facts. [images, links]- Fast Company

Gehry Discusses Green Designs, Allston: ...was quick to indicate that he has no plans to jump on any sustainable architecture bandwagon. "Don't just run off with every fad—the green thing is very important, but some of us have been thinking of it for a while..." - The Harvard Crimson

Weisman Art Museum's expansion begins: Frank Gehry designed the additions to his 1993 University of Minnesota landmark -- HGA Architects [image]- Minneapolis Star Tribune

Who's To Blame for Faulty Foster Tower? Despite the recession, CityCenter continues to rise on the Las Vegas Strip...One project that certainly has not turned out as planned is the 400-room Harmon Hotel tower...The problems have escalated into finger-pointing between project parties... -- Foster + Partners [images]- Architectural Record

[Foster's new routemaster not big enough - say RAC and Labour: Plans to scrap bendy buses and introduce new routemasters - to be designed by Foster + Partners and Aston Martin - have come under fire... \[images\]- The Architects' Journal \(UK\)](#)

[Foster + Partners and FXFowle Architects win WAN Awards Urban Design Sector \[for\] Beijing International Airport and Nordhavnen City Regeneration masterplan \(respectively\) \[images\]- World Architecture News \(UK\)](#)

[2010 World Monuments Watch: 93 sites listed speak to compelling issues in heritage preservation and reflect a growing understanding that preservation must be addressed in broader social, economic, and environmental contexts. \[links\]- World Monuments Fund](#)

[Call for entries: Re:Vision Design Awards 2010 international competition to recognize the work of emerging designers in furniture, lighting, product, interior or environmental design; open to those under 40 and/or have been in professional practice for less than 10 years; cash prizes; deadline: November 17, 2009- Modern Painters magazine / Louise Blouin Media](#)

[It's Big. It's Bold. It's sometime a bit delirious. Don't miss this Burnham Plan Centennial exhibition of Chicago architects and their visions for the city's future. "Big.Bold.Visionary: Chicago Considers the Next Century"...An entertaining and challenging compilation of ideas for Chicago's Future is at the Chicago Tourism Center, but only through Sunday, October 11. By Lynn Becker \[images, links\]- Repeat \(Chicago\)](#)

["Future of Design" conference: 30 designers, critics and provocative thinkers will brainstorm how design concepts are evolving; Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 9-10; all segments will be available at YouTube starting Oct. 19- University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning](#)



[Atelier Bow-Wow: Four Boxes Gallery, Krabbesholm College, Skive, Denmark](#)

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